

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OSLO 01352 171844Z

46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 051615

O 171537Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1331

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1352

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, MARR, NATO, PFOR, IC, NO, UK

SUBJECT: STATUS OF NORWEGIAN PROPOSAL ON COD WAR

REFS: (A) OSLO 1221, (B) OSLO 1163, (C) REYKJAVIK 0356,

(D) COPENHAGEN 0803

1. I MET AFTERNOON MARCH 17 WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND  
TO LEARN LATEST DEVELOPMENTS NORWEGIAN EFFORTS IN UK-ICELANDIC  
FISHERIES DISPUTE.

2. FRYDENLUND SAID HE HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH BOTH UK AND  
ICELANDERS. AMONG OTHERS, FRYDENLUND FOUND OCCASION TO MEET  
MARCH 15 WITH GROUP OF ICELANDERS, INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER  
HALLGRIMSSON'S PRIVATE SECRETARY, WHO WERE PASSING THROUGH  
OSLO ENROUTE TO BRUSSELS ON ROUTINE VISIT.

ICELANDERS, HE SAID, HAVE MET TWICE  
IN CABINET SESSIONS ON ISSUE THIS WEEK. HE WILL NOT BE  
SURPRISED IF THEY COME FORWARD WITH SOMETHING SOON, POSSIBLY  
BEFORE MARCH 23. HE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THEY WOULD COME FORWARD  
WITH NOR IN WHICH FORUM THEY WOULD SURFACE ANY PROPOSAL BUT THEY  
UNDERSTAND THEY MUST OFFER A FIRM PROPOSAL. FRYDENLUND  
SAID HALLGRIMSSON BELIEVES IT ESSENTIAL THAT ANY NEGOTIATION  
ON ISSUE SHOULD STEER AWAY FROM USE OF TONNAGE FIGURE AND FOCUS  
ON USE OF NUMBER OF BOATS INVOLVED IN FISHING.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 OSLO 01352 171844Z

3. BRITISH HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO NORWEGIANS THAT THEY THINK TOO MANY CHANNELS HAVE BEEN USED TO PROMOTE DISCUSSIONS, AND THEY HAVE TOLD NORWEGIANS THEY WANT TO USE THEM AS ONLY CHANNEL. THE NORWEGIANS HAVE INFORMED THE ICELANDERS OF THIS. FRYDENLUND SAID IT IS IMPORTANT FROM HIS VIEWPOINT TO EMPLOY NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY, AND NOT REPEAT NOT HIM PERSONALLY AS THE CHANNEL. WHILE HE IS DIRECTLY INVOLVED AND ON THE LINE TO ICELANDERS HE IS USING HIS AMBASSADOR IN CIELAND AS HIS MAIN CONTACT WITH THEM. HE HAS INSTRUCTED THE AMBASSADOR TO KEEP CLOSE CONTACT NOT ONLY WITH HALLGRIMSSON BUT ALSO WITH FOREIGN MINISTER AGUSTSSON.

4. FRYDENLUND SAID THAT WHILE DANES WERE ACTIVE IN FORWARDING DISCUSSIONS DURING NORDIC COUNCIL MEETING IN COPENHAGEN, THEY HAVE INFORMED HIM THAT BECAUSE OF SPECIAL NATURE OF NORWEGIAN-ICELANDIC RELATIONSHIP DANES NO LONGER WOULD INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN PROMOTING NEGOTIATIONS. THEY SAID THEY CONSIDERED NORWEGIANS TO BE PROPER CHANNEL. REFERRING TO POSSIBLE CONFUSION OF CHANNELS, FRYDENLUND MENTIONED A PROPOSAL MADE BY BRITISH MP NAMED PRESCOTT TO ICELANDIC FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL IN STRASBOURG. PROPOSAL INVOLVED 5,000 TON MONTHLY CATCH, AND PRESCOTT APPARENTLY GAVE IMPRESSION THAT UK FOREIGN MINISTER CALLAGHAN AGREED TO PROPOSAL. UK REPRESENTATIVE WHO IS STILL RESIDENT IN REYKJAVIK SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE THIS PROPOSAL HAD ANY STANDING. FRYDENLUND BELIEVES SAME (HE SAID IN FACT SOME ICELANDERS MAY BE USING IT AS A RED HERRING), AND THINKS HALLGRIMSSON UNDERSTANDS THIS IS NOT REAL PROPOSAL. HOWEVER, HALLGRIMSSON'S PRIVATE SECRETARY INFORMED NORWEGIANS THAT THE PROPOSAL WAS ON ICELANDIC CABINET AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION. THIS COULD BE PROPOSAL REFERRED TO IN REYKJAVIK 0356, PARA 5. NORWEGIANS PROFESSED NOT TO KNOW WHAT CANADIAN AMBASSADOR MCILWRAITH WAS UP TO (REYKJAVIK 0356) EXCEPT THAT HE WENT TO REYKJAVIK FROM LONDON.

5. FRYDELUND SAID HE HAD HEARD FROM REYKJAVIK THAT AMBASSADOR IRVING HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY ICELANDERS TO INVOLVE US TO MEDIATE DISPUTE. I SAID TO MY KNOWLEDGE THIS WAS NOT THE CASE AND THAT WE LOOK TO FRYDENLUND AS THE PRINCIPAL CHANNEL FOR PROMOTING NEGOTIATIONS. I SAID I UNDERSTOOD WE HAD BEEN ASKED IN WASHINGTON TO GIVE ICELANDERS SUPPORT AND WE HAD CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 OSLO 01352 171844Z

MAINTAINED OUR STRONG DESIRE TO SEE A SETTLEMENT ACHIEVED WHILE REMAINING NEUTRAL IN THE DISPUTE.

6. WE DISCUSSED POTENTIAL IMPACT UPCOMING CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP IN UK MIGHT HAVE ON MATTER. FRYDENLUND SAID IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FROM HERE TO DRAW CONCLUSIONS ON POSSIBLE EFFECT OF CHANGE. BYRNE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FISHING DISPUTES, NEGOTIATIONS, DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 MAR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976OSLO01352  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760101-0063  
**From:** OSLO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760352/aaaabtel.tel  
**Line Count:** 114  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 76 OSLO 1221, 76 OSLO 1163, 76 REYKJAVIK 356  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <28 JUL 2004 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** STATUS OF NORWEGIAN PROPOSAL ON COD WAR  
**TAGS:** EFIS, MARR, PFOR, IC, NO, UK, US, NATO, (FRYDENLUND, KNUT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006